

REMARKS

For the following reasons, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance.

1. Response to claim 2:

The complexity of the memory unit of the present invention is featured with at least two distinctive components for implementing the function of memorizing, including:

(i) *a chip capable of learning, and*

(ii) *an MCU microprocessor.*

The structure of the memory unit therefore is more than simply connecting the infrared-ray receiving unit with a memory unit, as the examiner suggested.

2. Response to claim 3:

The input in the present invention is distinguishably characterized with the ability of *radio frequency communication.*

3. Response to claim 4:

The present invention is patentably distinguished from prior arts in Claim 1.

Accordingly, even though the dependent Claim 4, which is dependent upon Claim 1, states that

“said input ~~apparatus can be~~ is a computer”, Claim 4 is still patentably different from prior arts.

4. Response to claim 5:

Significant differences between Van Der Meulen’s Patent (Patent No. 6,900,617) and the present invention are listed below.

(i) X10 technology: required in Meulen’s, but absent in the present invention:

In Claim 2 and Claim 4 of Meulen’s, it is stated that “wherein the communications device communicates the sequence of power measures via a power line circuit,” and “wherein the processing device communicates the change of the state of the appliance to the notification device via a power line circuit.”

(ii) An Internet site provided in Meulen’s, but absent in the present invention:

In Claim 10 and Claim 21 of Meulen’s, it is stated that “The information processing system of claim 9, wherein the characteristic pattern is provided via an Internet site.”, and “further including downloading the characteristic pattern from an Internet site.” In the present invention, no internet service is provided for the system users.

(iii) two-way in Meulen’s vs. unidirectional communication in the present invention:

In the first paragraph of BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION in Meulen’s, it is specified as a two-way communication; while the present invention provides a unidirectional communication.

5. Response to claim 6:

The present invention is patentably distinguished from prior arts in Claim 1.

Accordingly, the dependent Claim 6, which is dependent upon Claim 1Claim 4, is patentably different from prior arts.

6. Response to claim 7:

Significant differences between Watanabe's Patent (Patent No. 6,583,723) and the present invention are:

(i) structure simplicity of the present invention over prior arts: two different kinds of sensors required in Watanabe's; but only one kind of sensor used in the present invention

In Claim 1 of Watanabe's, it is stated that "at least two kinds of sensors, each determining a range of a detection target and a detection sensitivity and acquiring a particular detection signal from the detection target at the detection sensitivity, the respective detection signals acquired by the sensors being of different types;". In BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION of Watanabe's, it is also stated that "In particular, the invention relates to an apparatus for operating electric home appliances such as a TV and a video recorder;".

In contrast, the present invention uses only one type of sensors with a much simplified processing technique: upon receiving the signal from the sensor coupled to the actuator, the actuator is triggered to send out pre-set signal to a signal receiver without going through the

analyzing procedure in the actuator.

(ii) *ordered sequence of an RF signal followed by an IR signal in the present invention:*

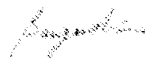
The present invention also differs from Watanabe's in that in the present invention the original control signal (i.e. an RF signal) sent from the actuator is received by a central control unit (i.e. a transceiver) before a second control signal (i.e. an IR signal) is sent for controlling the IR appliances.

In view of the foregoing submissions and explanations, it is believed that claim 1-8 are in condition for allowance.

Courtesy, cooperation and skill of Primary Examiner Scott Au are appreciated and acknowledged.

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Respectfully,



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